

ABSOLUTE RATING: Good
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Excellent

Number of high schools with students similar to ours: 30. The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from average to excellent. For the improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.
(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD

	Absolute Rating	Improvement Rating
2001	Good	Excellent
2002		
2003		
2004		

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	Our School			Schools With Students Like Ours		
	1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001
• Passed all 3 subtests	63.8	76.4	79.5	71.4	74.9	75.2
• Passed 2 subtests	20.3	12.7	12.1	16.1	14.2	14.4
• Passed 1 subtest	11.6	8.4	6.4	7.9	7.5	7.1
• Passed no subtests	4.3	2.5	2.0	4.6	3.3	3.3

ELIGIBILITY FOR LIFE SCHOLARSHIPS	Our School	Schools With Students Like Ours
% of seniors eligible for LIFE Scholarships at four-year institutions	21.0%	27.8%
% of seniors who met the SAT requirement	21.5%	29.3%
% of seniors who met the grade point average	49.2%	56.4%

Beginning in 2003, the graduation rate for each high school will be included in the school rating.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Seniors		
	Exit Exam Passage Rate by Spring 2001	Eligibility for LIFE Scholarships	Graduation Rate
All students	92.8%	21.0%	N/A until 2003
Students with disabilities other than speech	66.7%	18.2%	
Students without disabilities	95.2%	21.2%	
Gender			
Male	91.4%	13.0%	
Female	94.2%	29.2%	
Ethnic Group			
African American	100.0%	22.2%	
Hispanic	100.0%	100.0%	
White	92.3%	20.1%	
Other	100.0%	50.0%	
Lunch Status			
Free/reduced-price lunch	90.9%	10.0%	
Pay for lunch	92.9%	21.6%	

STUDENTS IN CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY COURSES

Mastering core competencies	71.9%
Completers placed	100.0%
Eligible students enrolled	69.2%

SCHOOL PROFILE

INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Schools with Students Like Ours	Median High School
SCHOOL				
• Dollars spent per student	\$4,750	N/A	\$4,972	\$5,668
• Prime instructional time	90.0%	Up from 89.9%	91.1%	90.1%
• Student-teacher ratio	28.4 to 1	N/A	26.6 to 1	25.1 to 1
STUDENTS (n=1,251)				
• Advanced Placement/ Int'l Baccalaureate Program Exam Success Ratio	36.7%	N/A	57.4%	40.0%
• Attendance rate	95.2%	Up from 95.1%	95.7%	95.3%
• Retention rate	7.8%	Up from 7.6%	7.5%	10.0%
TEACHERS (n=77)				
• Professional Development days per teacher	7.0 Days	No change	7.4 Days	7.5 Days
• Attendance rate	95.4%	Down from 95.9%	96.0%	95.7%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	55.8%	Down from 61.1%	55.3%	49.4%
• Continuing contract teachers	85.7%	Down from 88.9%	82.2%	81.0%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	9.1%	Up from 0.0%	2.8%	3.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	89.5%	Down from 89.8%	86.6%	85.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$38,357	Up 2.8%	\$38,311	\$38,125

SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median High School
SCHOOL				
• Dropout rate	8.0%	Up from 5.7%	2.7%	2.9%
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	57.4%	N/A	57.4%	56.4%
• Principal's years at the school	1.0	N/A	3.0	3.0
• Percent of parents attending conferences	89.3%	N/A	59.5%	60.1%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
STUDENTS				
• Older than usual for grade	6.4%	Up from 6.3%	6.4%	10.1%
• Suspended or expelled	15	N/A	27	29
• Gifted and talented	6.3%	Up from 6.0%	10.7%	7.4%
• With disabilities other than speech	10.7%	Down from 11.4%	9.0%	10.7%
• Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	0.0%	N/A	2.9%	4.5%
• Enrollment in career and technology center courses	866	N/A	513	350
• Career students participating in work-based experiences	62.0%	N/A	26.6%	23.1%



PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

As the faculty and staff at Pickens High School strive to produce self-reliant, responsible and productive world citizens, we provide a variety of programs for all our students. A qualified staff of caring professionals, including three National Board Certified teachers and 48 with advanced degrees, ensures that all students receive a well-rounded education.

Academics are our number one priority. A variety of courses from advanced placement, college prep and tech prep studies offer our students the opportunity to prepare themselves for the next level of their education. The Southern Region Educational Board has included PHS, in conjunction with BJ Skelton Career Center, in its "High Schools That Work" initiative that promotes the education of all students at a college level through applied academics and experiential learning. Our fine arts program showcases the talents of our students through drama, visual arts, chorus, band and strings. Individuals and groups have been recognized for outstanding performances as individuals and groups on local and state levels. Our Army JROTC competition teams have been recognized for excellence in precision, endurance, and skill. Our athletics program encourages students to excel in over 24 different sports on varsity or junior varsity levels. Many teams have achieved post-season levels of competition. PHS is proud to be the home of the 2000 AAA State Volleyball Champions.

Under the leadership of our new principal, Marion Lawson, PHS showed gains on the BSAP EXIT exam in both reading and math during the 2000-01 school year. Over 99 percent of the Class of 2001 met standard on all areas required to receive a South Carolina high school diploma. Our facilities were upgraded and expanded to include a newly air-conditioned gymnasium, a renovated athletic stadium, and a fourth computer lab.

Anticipating continued progress during the 2001-02 school year, we look forward to forming a strong partnership with our parents and the businesses and organizations of the Pickens community. Together we will work to provide excellence in education for every student at Pickens High.

EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	80.3	67.6	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	75.8	71.1	
Satisfied with home-school relations	58.1	80.3	

DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Pickens Senior High
111 Blue Flame Drive
Pickens, SC 29671

Grades 9-12 High School

Enrollment: 1,251 Students

Principal

Mr. Marion Lawson 864-878-8730

Superintendent

Dr. Mendel Stewart 864-855-8150

Board Chair

Mr. Ernie Fortner 864-859-2336



THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School
Report Card

2001

School Grade:
Excellent



South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at
www.myscschools.com